Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/464,363	IRVIN, DAVID R.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Abdulhakim Nobahar	2132	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *3*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-44*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *15 December 1999* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-44 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claims 1-44:

The primary reason for the allowance of the independent claims 1, 17, 24, 26, 28 and 38 is the inclusion of the following limitations that are not found in the prior art and they are uniquely distinct features. The closest prior arts are Laubach et al. (US Patent 6,028,860) and MacLellan et al (US Patent 6,130,623). Laubach discloses a bi-directional communication system that computes a header error check (an error check value), encrypts the messages and then transmits the messages with the header error check to an addressed destination. Laubach also discloses that the encryption key at the transmitting end and the decryption key at the receiving end are obtained from a table based on a virtual path identifier and an encryption index. MacLellan teaches a system for transmitting encrypted RF signals to receiving tags that updates the encryption algorithm whenever a new generation of the system software is released. Updating an encryption algorithm, consequently necessitates to update the encryption key(s), because more powerful microprocessors become available and the hackers use stronger tools. However, These two arts, singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the following limitation:

"Claim 1: generating an error check value for the unencrypted message; and

transmitting the encrypted message and the error check value on a channel of a communication network with an associated destination address."

"Claim 17: determining if the error check value indicates an error; and

decrypting the received message using a group encryption key if the received message is directed to a broadcast address of the communication network and the error check value for the received message indicates an error."

"Claim 24: an error check value generation circuit that generates an error check value

based on the unencrypted message and adds the error check value to the encrypted message; and

a transmitter that transmits the encrypted message with the added error check value on a channel of a communication network."

"Claim 26: an error check value generation circuit that generates an error check value

for the received message and the decrypted message; and

a comparator circuit responsive to the error check value generation circuit
that determines whether an error is indicated for the received message and the
decrypted message."

"Claim 28: means for generating an error check value for the unencrypted message; and

means for transmitting the encrypted message and added error check value on a channel of a communication network with an associated destination address."

"Claim 38: means for determining if the error check value indicates an error; and

means for decrypting the received message using a group encryption key if the received message is directed to a broadcast address of the communication network and the error check value for the received message indicates an error."

4. The dependent claims 2-16, 18-23, 25, 27, 29-37 and 39-44 are allowed because they were originally found to include a unique feature not found in the closest abovementioned art.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 703-305-8074. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 703-305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdulhakim Nobahar
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

AN

August 17, 2004

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